

SEMPER EADEM

by

D.B. Knox

"The Protestant Faith"

## SEMPER EADEM - ALWAYS THE SAME

Perhaps the most obvious feature of our present-day life is change. Things are on the move. New inventions, new processes, new improvements in our way of life are constantly being adopted. New discoveries in technology are being applied to every-day life and we do not live the same way as our grand-parents did. They travelled by steamer, we fly, they walked to work, we drive, they read books, we look at television and so on. There is a constant change in our way of life. This spirit of change is being applied to other things than technology, for example, to human relations; the old idea of life-long marriage and promises made to be kept is giving way to changed ideas, but human nature and human relationships do not change, and so if the new ideas are right, the old ones were wrong.

The same spirit of change is effecting our Christian beliefs so that there are few Christian writers today who believe the same things about God or the Bible as did those of the past. But if there is any fact that is true it is this, that God does not change. He is from everlasting to everlasting the same, so that if our ideas about Him change or about the Bible change, it means this, that either the new ideas are wrong or the old ideas are wrong. God does not change, and the Bible affirms that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. Are your ideas about God and Jesus the same as your grandparents? If not, were they wrong or are you wrong? Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Yesterday people believed in His absolute divinity and power, and they were right for they proved it in their lives, and He remains the same today whether or not people believe in Him. It is a marvellously refreshing truth that God remains in

control of the world that He created. He does not change. Just as He was able to save that pathetic little group of slaves, the Israelites leaving Egypt, when they were pursued by the mighty Egyptian army, so He is able to rescue us today if we put our faith in Him. The unchanging Jesus is to be the object of our faith and trust. He is unchanging in His person, He is the Son of God who lived a man among us, to show us how we ought to live and to save us from the condemnation of our sins. Bring your thoughts back to this truth and shape your life according to it, because it is the most wonderful fact that we can think of, that God our Creator is so interested in us and so loves us that He lived among us, and allowed Himself to be treated by His fellowmen in the way we treat one another. His contemporaries were jealous of Him, were frightened of what He might do to their position, so schemed against Him, lied against Him, arrested Him, tortured Him and killed Him. He allowed it to happen to Him so that He might be perfect even in these worst of circumstances and so overcome the power of evil. For death is the result of evil, and Jesus' resurrection and triumph over death demonstrates His victory over evil, and that He is able to save from eternal death all who put their trust in Him. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. God never changes, His love never changes, His power never changes, His interest in us never changes, His judgement on sin never changes, and no matter what our modern generation may think or say and write, what was true once about God remains always true and we should base our life on this great fact that Jesus, the Son of God is the Saviour of the world. He invites us now as formerly, "Come to me, I will give you rest. Learn from Me, and you will find peace in your life." He is the Lord.